

What is Claimed Is:

1 1. A method of suspending the printing of a special effect on the output media of
2 a computer output device adapted to receive an input byte stream, said method comprising the
3 steps of:

4 (a) identifying a triggering byte string to act as a trigger for indicating the
5 suspension of printing of said special effect on said output media;

6 (b) determining whether said input byte stream includes said triggering
7 byte string; and

8 (c) suspending the printing of said special effect in response to determining
9 said triggering byte string is in said input byte stream.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said computer output device comprises a
2 point-of-sale printer.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said output media comprises a receipt.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said triggering byte string is a legacy text
2 string.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said special effect is a top logo, a watermark,
2 a ribbon logo, or a bottom logo.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
- 2 (d) saving said triggering byte string in memory;
- 3 (e) associating said triggering byte string with a printing function;
- 4 (f) delaying for a fixed number of bytes the normal processing of said
- 5 input byte stream;
- 6 (g) executing said printing function associated with said triggering byte
- 7 string after determining said triggering byte string is in said input byte stream; and
- 8 (h) optionally removing said triggering byte string from said input byte
- 9 stream; and
- 10 (i) restoring normal processing of said input byte stream.
- 1 7. A method of suspending the printing of a special effect on the output media of
- 2 a computer output device adapted to receive an input byte stream, said method comprising the
- 3 steps of:
- 4 (a) identifying a triggering byte string to act as a trigger for indicating the
- 5 suspension of printing of said special effect on said output media;
- 6 (b) determining whether said input byte stream includes said triggering
- 7 byte string; and
- 8 (c) suspending the printing of said special effect for a predetermined
- 9 number of printer operations in response to determining said triggering byte string is in said
- 10 input byte stream.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of identifying a triggering byte string
2 to act as a trigger comprises the steps of:

3 (i) defining a triggering byte string of less than or equal to maximum
4 allowable length;

5 (ii) storing said triggering byte string in non-volatile storage;

6 (ii) managing said non-volatile storage to hold a fixed number of byte
7 strings; and

8 (iii) ordering said fixed number of byte strings into fast response memory
9 for execution of a match/does not match comparison to said input byte stream.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said computer output device comprises a
2 point-of-sale printer.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein said output media comprises a receipt.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said byte string is a legacy text string.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein said special effect is a top logo, a watermark,
2 a ribbon logo, or a bottom logo.